Ham-Policy Digest   Wed, 1 Dec 93   Volume 93 : Issue 500

Today's Topics:
                         learning code program
                      learning Morse code visually
                            Thanx, no-coders!
                    THE argument for CW requirements
                     Why isn't Amateur Radio like CB?

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: Tue, 30 Nov 1993 06:40:50 GMT
From: portal!waena!jw@uunet.uu.net
Subject: learning code program
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

RO> Does anyone know of a MSDOS computer program availible that
  >helps teach morse code ?

RO> I'm not currently into amateur radio,but I just can't help
  >but think that someone has written such software.

RO> Perhaps something that would use a single key as a keyer and
  >also ask you to randomly enter the proper dit da sequence for
  >text and etc.

Well I could not find one, so i wrote one. Unfortunately it
requires the 4DOS command interpreter (available as

shareware, and BTW is much superior to the MS version). It
is one big batch file. It also requires a sorting program
(such as qsort, also shareware).

It works like this:
****
 echo off
 alias .=beep 400 3
 alias -=beep 400 9
 alias ~=beep 1 3
 alias #=beep 1 40
 ECHO --------------------------- >> MLOG

echo T -^-^~^#   ^echo T >> MLOG ^ECHO TZ80seriali > n
echo 3 ...--^.^~^.^~^.^~^-^~^-^~^#   ^echo 3 >> MLOG ^ECHO 3HP3000'ssu > n

(etc...)
****
The leading space are required where present. It works like
this... First it echos the letter and the code to the
screen. Then it executes the alias - (or .) which is a beep
tone. Note commands are stacked on one command line with
the delimiter ^ in 4DOS. A short silence is the ~ alias.
A long silence if the # alias. After making the beeps, it
writes the letter to a log file. You can test yourself by
running the batch file without looking at the screen and
trying to guess the tone. Compare your answers with the log
file. The final command 'ECHO TZ80seriali > null' it there
for sorting porposes. The echo statemet is there so that
these meaningless strings do not generate an error. The
first letter of the string is the same as the letter of that
line. This letter is in column 66. Sorting on colums 66
will arrange the code in order. Sorting on any column
between 67 and 76 will generate a random order of letters.

I also made another batch file I call MLOOP
****
echo off
set BT=2
set BT3=6
set BP=15
alias .=beep 400 %BT%
alias -=beep 400 %BT3%
alias ~=beep 1 %BT%
alias #=beep 1 %BP%

:L0
set stop=~

```
echo 0 -----^-^~^-^~^-^~^-^~^-^~^-^~^#
inkey /W1 %%stop
if "%stop%" == "s" goto L1
GOTO L0

:L1
set stop=~
echo 1 .----^.^~^-^~^-^~^-^~^-^~^-^~^#
inkey /W1 %%stop
if "%stop%" == "s" goto L2
GOTO L1
************************************************************
```

This simply displays the code and letter and plays the beep
continuosly for one letter or number until you press the 's'
key. Then it skips to the next letter. This is a good way
to drill the patterns into your brain.

If you want the complete batch files, send me e-mail and i
will maikl them to you.

good luck, jw
--
--
Running Linux (Slackware) 0.99.13 #4   jw@waena.edu
waena.edu 212.254.2528   jeff milton
Wide Area Edu. Network Assn: Basic Training for the Information Revolution

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Date: Tue, 30 Nov 1993 06:49:30 GMT
From: portal!waena!jw@uunet.uu.net
Subject: learning Morse code visually
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

Derek Wills (oo7@emx.cc.utexas.edu) wrote:
: rich@mulvey.com warns:

: >>Sysop of WAENA (jw@waena.edu) wrote:
: >>: I am studying for my FCC license. I have learned morse code
: >>: from an old Navy manual....
:
:   >Well, first off, you're learning the code in exactly the WRONG way.
: >Memorizing the code "visually" is guaranteed to cause havoc when you
: >try to increase your speed beyond a few words-per-minute.

Gee, maybee someone should the tell the Navy the're doing it wrong <g>. Of
course I will use sond patterns to learn the practice, but I DO want to see

what characters are represented as what. As it is, using the sond only
systems I have already ran into DIFFERENT SOUNDS for the same character. It
would be nice to be able to simply look them up.

jw
--

Running Linux (Slackware) 0.99.13 #4   jw@waena.edu
waena.edu 212.254.2528   jeff milton
Wide Area Edu. Network Assn: Basic Training for the Information Revolution

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Date: Sat, 27 Nov 93 23:07:14 EST
From: caen!malgudi.oar.net!wariat.org!mystis!dan@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Thanx, no-coders!
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

drenze@icaen.uiowa.edu (Douglas J Renze) writes:

> Well, my $0.02 toward the code/no-code debate...
> While I was out of town on Friday, I was rear-ended and my car
> smashed up rather nastily. I made a call on my 2-meter HT requesting
> emergency assistance (no autopatch on the repeater I was monitoring)
> and it was a no-code tech that came back to me. He handled the emergency
> traffic, contacted the necessary authorities, and monitored the frequency
> until the authorities were there.
> Even if I already weren't a believer in the no-code license,
> I would be now, because that tech wasn't the only person on the repeater at
> at the time. There were some people sporting advanced and extra calls who
> clammed up as soon as I came across with a request for emergency assistance--
> I guess I wasn't welcome on the repeater 'cause I wasn't one of the "good
> ol' boys."
>
> 73, Doug
>

They were just waiting for you to not be able to reach someone with
voice and have to resort to sending with just your mike key (in morse).

(RIGHT!)

 ==
 || Dan Pickersgill N8PKV || 'Pots have handles, Magazines have ||
 || dan@mystis.wariat.org || Personals, Hams have Names' ||
 ==
 || 'Your enemy is never a villian in his own eyes. Keep this in ||

```
  ||   mind; it may offer a way to make him your friend. If not you     ||
  ||   can kill him without hate - and quickly.'  -Lazarus Long         ||
   ======================================================================
```

Date: Sat, 27 Nov 93 23:05:03 EST
From: caen!malgudi.oar.net!wariat.org!mystis!dan@uunet.uu.net
Subject: THE argument for CW requirements
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

jherman@uhunix3.uhcc.Hawaii.Edu (Jeff Herman) writes:

> In article <1993Nov28.161559.21452@ke4zv.atl.ga.us> gary@ke4zv.UUCP (Gary Cof
>
> >
> >Now on the issue of Morse users being retrotechnology, I'd be a bit
> >more careful and say only that it should be self-evident that the
> >time they spend on Morse activities takes away from time they could
> >   ^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^
> >be spending on more technically advanced modes. But I wouldn't contend
> >that if they were not doing Morse that they would actually be doing
> >more technically advanced things. They've already made that choice
> >clear.
> >
>
> For `Morse activities' we can substitute SSB or FM or TTY or ATV or
> USENET.

Except that NONE of those modes, even usenet, requires a pass/fail test
to gain privileges to morse bandwith.

   ==
  || Dan Pickersgill N8PKV || 'Pots have handles, Magazines have ||
  || dan@mystis.wariat.org || Personals, Hams have Names' ||
   ==
	'Your enemy is never a villian in his own eyes. Keep this in	
	mind; it may offer a way to make him your friend. If not you	
	can kill him without hate - and quickly.' -Lazarus Long	
   ==
```

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Date: Sat, 27 Nov 93 23:10:36 EST
From: caen!malgudi.oar.net!wariat.org!mystis!dan@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Why isn't Amateur Radio like CB?
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

drenze@icaen.uiowa.edu (Douglas J Renze) writes:

> dpt@ri.cadre.com (Dan P. Trainor) writes:
>
> >As far as i'm concerned, these bands are gone forever!
>
> They're only gone forever if we give up on them.  You want to keep the
> standards of amateur radio high?  Then get on 2-meters, show the newbies
> how to act.  Invite them to a club meeting.  Maybe have the presentation
> (or whatever) be something on VHF operation.
>  Think of them as you would children.  The first time you hear a
> little kid use a four-letter word or be rude to an adult, do you say to
> yourself, "Well!  If Johnny's acting like this at age 2, what's he going
> to be like when he's 12?" and just give up on him?  Why not give no-coders
> the same benefit of the doubt?

Hummm, guess I am not the only one saying that...

Like hearing "well, 7-3-es, N8zzz..." I always wonder why anyone
would wish someone "Best Wishes'es".
>
> Just my $0.02 on the debate.

With inflation, I would think you would be entitled to at least a
quarter.

73,


 ========================================================================
 || Dan Pickersgill  N8PKV   ||  'Pots have handles, Magazines have  ||
 || dan@mystis.wariat.org    ||      Personals, Hams have Names'     ||
 ========================================================================
 || 'Your enemy is never a villian in his own eyes. Keep this in     ||
 ||  mind; it may offer a way to make him your friend. If not you     ||
 ||  can kill him without hate - and quickly.'  -Lazarus Long        ||
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Date: Tue, 30 Nov 1993 04:57:30 GMT
From: walter!dancer!whs70@uunet.uu.net
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

References <1993Nov22.170248.791@fripp.ri.cadre.com>,
<1993Nov27.124602.2454@globv1.hacktic.nl>,
<rcrw90-291193092650@node_13059.aieg.mot.com>

Subject : Re: Why isn't Amateur Radio like CB?

In article <rcrw90-291193092650@node_13059.aieg.mot.com> rcrw90@email.mot.com
(Mike Waters) writes:
>In article <1993Nov27.124602.2454@globv1.hacktic.nl>,
>peter@globv1.hacktic.nl (Peter Busser) wrote:
>
>
>> Is it any worse than what you hear in daily life?
>...
>> So I am
>> wondering why the CB in the US is so bad? And why don't you do something to
>> make it a little better?
>
>In the U.S. 11M "CB" has been largely given over to scofflaws and people
>who simply want to be abusive.  IMHO there are several reasons for that.
>In part it is a reflection of the larger society on the U.S.  There is a
>subculture which feels that being abusive is desirable and tries to be as
>obnoxious as possible.

I think you'll find that most of the "Obnoxious" is fairly limited
to channel 19, especially in rural areas.

>The CB band became popular when a particularly pointless national speed
>limit was put in place.  The speed limit is universally disregarded,
>especially here in desert states where you can often drive for several
>hours between significant population centers (truck stops not included :-).
> CB was and is used to avoid either obeying this law or getting caught.
>IMHO the classic example of a bad law put in place for very poor reasons,
>but almost impossible to remove once in place.

Agreed, although groups lke the National Motorists Association are
making considerable inroads to change much of the old 55MPH stretches
of highway (for info about NMA call 1-800-882-2785)

>The largest problem that I see is that the 11M band is so overcrowded
>(partly as a result of the above) that actual communication is simply not
>possible.  As a result there are extremely few serious users and the band
>is largely left to those who simply want to abuse the service.

Overcrowding of the 40 CB channels is fairly limited to urban (city)
environments.  I live 45 miles from New York City and if I turn on
a CB radio I usually find only 4 or 5 channels in use.

>In other words - yes it reallly is that bad in the U.S.

Again, I think that is true for city/urban areas, but not so in the
rural areas.  One of my other hobbies is antique cars.  I often travel

in convoy with other car owners to/from club events and we often use CB
radios to coordinate the trip.  We have had very good success using CB
and only rarely encounter someone who claims we should vacate the channel
we are on as we transit some local.  When that happens we just stay
off the radios fro 10 minutes or so (during which we usually cover another
8 to 10 miles) and then pick things up again.  By that time, the 4 watt mobile
CBs are usually well out of range of the "anoyed CBer" and we just
carry on.  Frankly, that is exactly how CB radio is supposed to
be used.  I don't worry about anoying CBers who try to claim channel
"ownership" because they simply don'tt have any basis for the claim.

The CBers who try to emulate ham radio on a long distance "DX"
basis are not operating within the stated purposes of why CB radio
was created.

Standard Disclaimer- Any opinions, etc. are mine and NOT my employer's.
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Bill Sohl (K2UNK) BELLCORE (Bell Communications Research, Inc.)
Morristown, NJ            email via UUCP       bcr!cc!whs70
201-829-2879 Weekdays     email via Internet  whs70@cc.bellcore.com


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Date: Tue, 30 Nov 1993 03:08:23 GMT
From: pacbell.com!sgiblab!spool.mu.edu!howland.reston.ans.net!agate!
headwall.Stanford.EDU!Csli!paulf@network.ucsd.edu
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

References <RZeiDc1w165w@mystis.wariat.org>,
<1993Nov26.201238.27920@Csli.Stanford.EDU>,
<rcrw90-291193091103@node_13059.aieg.mot.com>
Subject : Re: This is a hobby not a

rcrw90@email.mot.com (Mike Waters) writes:

>None of which does anything that FIDONET for example didn't do several
>years earlier!  Almost all FIDO nodes seem to be running 9600+ baud (most
>14.4), the nodelist is worldwide etc.  All through dialup telephone.

Certainly, FIDO and USENET existed earlier.  From a geographical standpoint,
however, the autoforwarding BBS network is more extensive, and growing faster.
Most of the links between the BBSes are running at 9600+.  And nobody has
to pay Ma Bell one red cent.

--
-=Paul Flaherty, N9FZX | "Fighter pilots make movies.  Bomber pilots make
->paulf@Stanford.EDU   |  history."  -- Jake Grafton

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Date: Tue, 30 Nov 1993 04:38:59 GMT
From: walter!dancer!whs70@uunet.uu.net
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

References <1993Nov29.000300.26536@icaen.uiowa.edu>,
<CH9K86.Fnx@freenet.carleton.ca>, <2dddto$g07@hpscit.sc.hp.com>r
Subject : Re: Why isn't Amateur Radio like CB?

In article <2dddto$g07@hpscit.sc.hp.com> garhow@hpubmaa.esr.HP.COM (Garry Howard)
writes:
>I heard about some of the goings on on 14.313 but never listened until
>this weekend. Just monitor this frequency for a while and you will
>discover there is absolutely no difference between CB and ham radio.

Please, why do folks make such broad and sweeping statements
of condemnation because of the antics on 14.313?  Yes, those that
participate on 14.313 are certainly making a terrible example
of how NOT to be an amateur radio operator.  BUT...they are NOT
the majority of amateur radio operators and it is (IMHO) a total
exageration to say that because of the 14.313 crowd "there is
absolutely no difference between CB and ham radio."

>The behaviour on this frequency is probably worse than most CBers. I have
>been a ham for thirty years with some long lapses of inactivity. I am
>just now getting back on the air after almost ten years away from HF.
>This kind of activity is a sad commentary on the current state of the
>hobby. And there is one thing for sure, there are no no-code Techs involved
>in this. Many of the people on this frequency have Extra class calls.
>Garry
>KE0SH

As above...the 14.313 IS a terrible example...BUT it just does not
serve as the benchmark for all of amateur radio.

Standard Disclaimer- Any opinions, etc. are mine and NOT my employer's.
-------------------------------------------------------------------------
Bill Sohl (K2UNK) BELLCORE (Bell Communications Research, Inc.)
Morristown, NJ              email via UUCP       bcr!cc!whs70
201-829-2879 Weekdays      email via Internet  whs70@cc.bellcore.com

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Date: Tue, 30 Nov 1993 03:12:36 GMT
From: pacbell.com!sgiblab!swrinde!cs.utexas.edu!howland.reston.ans.net!agate!
headwall.Stanford.EDU!Csli!paulf@network.ucsd.edu
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

References <1993Nov28.174645.22072@ke4zv.atl.ga.us>,
<1993Nov29.185536.7264@mnemosyne.cs.du.edu>, <CHA1n2.DA5@sugar.NeoSoft.COM>
Subject : Re: FCC's indecency ban struck down in court

Jim Reese writes:

>   Jim Reese, WD5IYT     | "I can do more in two minutes than Rush can in
>jreese@sugar.neosoft.com |  three hours"  --Jim Hightower

Not like this has *anything* to do with Ham Radio, but I'm willing to bet that
Rush Limbaugh makes more money in two minutes than Jim Hightower makes in
three hours.

--
-=Paul Flaherty, N9FZX | "Fighter pilots make movies.  Bomber pilots make
->paulf@Stanford.EDU   |  history."  -- Jake Grafton

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End of Ham-Policy Digest V93 #500
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